

Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

/058 W

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R 041314Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9781

INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 1457

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, EG

SUBJECT: ALLEGED MALFEASANCE BY PRESIDENT NASSER

1. WITH TYPICAL ANTI-NASSERIST RELISH, AKHBAR IS FEATURING SCANDAL WHICH HAS GROWN FROM ALLEGATION BY WELL-KNOWN EGYPTIAN JOURNALIST AND PROFESSOR, GALAL HAMAMSI. LATTER HAD PUBLISHED BOOK IN WHICH HE ALLGED 15 MILLION DOLLARS PROVIDED TO EGYPT BY LATE KING SA'UD WERE TRANSFERRED ABROAD IN MAY-JUNE 1967 TO PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF PRESIDENT NASSER. TWO PEOPLES ASSEMBLY MEMBERS HAVE MADE OFFICIAL INTERPELLATIONS OF MINFIN AND MINECON ABOUT THIS ISSUE. PRIMIN FORMED TWO DAYS AGO SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE. PRESS FEBRUARY 4 IS FILLED WITH NEWS OF RESULTS OF COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION AND COMMENT ON IT.

2. ACCORDING TO REPORT OF COMMITTEE, WHICH COMPRISED OF CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR AND UNDERSECRETARIES FROM MINFIN AND MINECON, MONEY WAS DEPOSITED IN CENTRAL BANK ACCOUNT AND NASSER NEITHER RECEIVED IT HIMSELF NOR WERE FUNDS SMUGGLED ABROAD.

3. PREDICTABLY, AHARAM IS ENDEAVORING TO DEFEND NASSER.

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AKHBAR, ON OTHER HAND, IS PRESSING HOME CHARGES OF

MALFEASANCE. HAMAMSI, IN FEBRUARY 4 COMMENTARY TITLED "SMOKE IN THE WIND", NOTES CENTRAL BANK REPORT DISCUSSES ONLY ACCOUNTANCY, NOT HOW SUMS WERE DISPOSED OF. IN SECOND ANTI-NASSERIST ALLEGATION, HE ALSO CHARGES THAT ASHRAF MARWAN'S WIFE, NASSER'S DAUGHTER, SOUGH OBTAIN PLOT OF LAND FROM MINAGRARIAN REFORM. MARWAN'S LETTER TO HIM MAINTAINING HIS WIFE COMMITTED NO IRREGULARITY BY SIMPLY INQUIRING ABOUT LAND PURCHASE IS FEATURED IN AHRAM.

4. MEANWHILE, PUBLICITY CONSCIOUS SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR ABU AZYD HAS LEAPT INTO FRAY, ANNOUNCING HE WILL BEGIN A PERSONAL INVESTIGATION TODAY. HAMAMSI WRITES HE WILL PRESENT ALL DOCUMENTS HE HAS, ESPECIALLY THOSE BEARING ON MRS. MARWAN, TO ABU ZAYD FOR FULL INVESTIGATION.

5. WE UNDERSTAND AKHBAR SALES ARE MAKING QUANTIM JUMP. OF THREE CAIRO DAILIES ONLY AHRAM HAS KEPT CAIRO'S SPICIEST CURRENT SCANDAL OUT OF ITS BANNER HEADLINES. EILTS

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